

is a slender palm which bears as much as 125 pounds of dry mealy fruits that, when boiled in salted water, resemble chestnuts in texture and flavor. It bears in 6 to 8 years, lives to be 50 years old, is the favorite vegetable fruit of the Costa Ricans, and a most important commercial product. Every attempt should be made, Mr. Popenoe thinks, to cultivate this in western Florida, where it may succeed. His discovery of seedless forms (Nos. 51091 and 51092) in Costa Rica is worthy of special mention; and we wish to record here our appreciation of the gifts of offshoots of these palms by Doña Amparo de Zeledón and by Alfredo Brade, as also the assistance rendered Mr. Popenoe, during his stay in Costa Rica, by Otón Jiménez, an active young botanist of San Jose.

From Zanzibar in June, 1920, Doctor Shantz shipped a most remarkable collection of 241 introductions (Nos. 50726 to 50966) obtained by him in the region of Nyanza, Lake Tanganyika, Dar es Salaam, Urundi, and Ujiji. These represent, in the main, varieties of the grain and vegetable crops of the native agricultural tribes of this interesting region, and out of the collection can hardly fail to come strains of sorghum, beans, corn, or other plants which, through breeding, will add to our own American varieties of these crops such characters as resistance to drought or disease.

The dahlia has become of such importance to our horticulture and there are so many breeders of it that a collection of tree dahlias (*Dahlia* spp., Nos. 51086 to 51090) from Costa Rica can scarcely fail to be of interest as material for breeding purposes.

Mr. Popenoe's wild raspberry (*Rubus eriocarpus*, No. 51094) from 10,000 feet altitude on the slopes of the Volcano Irazu may prove of value to breeders.

Ideal street trees are an asset to any country, and Mr. Popenoe, in getting seeds of the muñeco (*Cordia nitida*, No. 51118) of Costa Rica, may have introduced a valuable one for southern Florida.

The tacaco (*Polakowskia tacaco*, No. 51122), like the chayote of Guatemala, is a favorite vegetable among Costa Ricans and according to Mr. Popenoe deserves to be improved by selection.

From the well-known collector, Carlos Wercklé, Mr. Popenoe procured a new fruit tree of the genus *Coccolobis* (No. 50683) and an as yet undetermined fruit tree (No. 50692) which he thinks may be a new genus; both have tart edible fruits of some promise.

The new and handsome shrub (*Wercklea insignis*, Nos. 51124 and 51125), named for Mr. Wercklé and having bright-lilac flowers resembling in size and form the well-known *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*, may grow in California and Florida and become popular.

From Bogota, Colombia, Mr. Popenoe sends a wild blackberry (*Rubus urticaefolius*, No. 51354), from an altitude of 5,000 feet, and *Erythrina edulis* (No. 51357), the seeds of which furnish an impor-